In The Claims

1. (Currently Amended) In an application service provision apparatus having an application service provision runtime library with multiple versions, a method of operation comprising:

receiving, a request by a first update service of a first version of said application service provision runtime library, a request to upgrade update an application to a second later version of the runtime library; and

a second update service of said second later version of the runtime library upgrading said application to said second later version of the runtime library.

- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said second later version of the runtime library is a selected one of the most current version of the runtime library and a predecessor version of the most current version of the runtime library.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said second later version of the runtime library is a selected one of an immediate successor version of said first version of the runtime library and a successor version of greater than one generation removed from said first version of the runtime library.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises:

said first update service of said first version of said application service provision runtime library notifying a dispatcher of said application service provision apparatus of said upgrade update request; and

said dispatcher notifying said second update service of said second version of said application service provision runtime library of said request.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein said second later version of the runtime library is a successor version of greater than one generation

removed from said first version of the runtime library, and said method further comprises:

said dispatcher notifying a third update service of an immediate successor version of said first version of the runtime library of said request;

said third update service of said immediate successor version upgrading said application to said immediate successor version of the first version of the runtime library; and

said third update service of said immediate successor version notifying said dispatcher of completion upon upgrading said application to said immediate successor version of the first version of the runtime library.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein said second later version of the runtime library is greater than one generation removed from said first version of the runtime library, and said method further comprises:

said dispatcher notifying a third update service of an immediate predecessor version of said second version of the runtime library of said request;

said third update service of said immediate predecessor version upgrading said application to said immediate predecessor version of the second version of the runtime library; and

said third update service of said immediate predecessor version notifying said dispatcher of completion upon upgrading said application to said immediate predecessor version of the second version of the runtime library.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein said second later version of the runtime library is a successor version of greater than one generation removed from said first version of the runtime library, said dispatcher notifying said second update service of said second version of said application service provision runtime library of said request directly, and said second update service upgrading said application to said second version of the runtime library.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
storage medium having stored therein programming instructions designed to implement a dispatcher on the apparatus to

receive notification, from a first <u>upgrade_update</u> service of a first version of an application service provision runtime library, of an application requesting <u>upgrade update</u> to a second <u>later</u> version of the application service provision runtime library, and

notify a second <u>upgrade update</u> service, of said second <u>later</u> version of the application service provision runtime library, of said request; and at least one processor coupled to the storage medium to execute the programming instructions.

- 9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said second later version of the runtime library is a selected one of the most current version of the runtime library and a predecessor version of the most current version of the runtime library.
- 10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said later version of the runtime library is a selected one of an immediate successor version of said first version of the runtime library, and a successor version of greater than one generation removed from said first version of the runtime library.
- 11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said second later version of the runtime library is a successor version of greater than one generation removed from said first version of the runtime library, and dispatcher is further equipped to notify a third update service of an immediate successor version of said first version of the runtime library to upgrade update said application to said immediate successor version of the first version of the runtime library, and to receive notification from said dispatcher of completion upon upgrading said application to said immediate successor version of the first version of the runtime library.

- 12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said second later version of the runtime library is greater than one generation removed from said first version of the runtime library, and the dispatcher is further equipped to notify a third update service of an immediate predecessor version of said second version of the runtime library to update update said application to said immediate predecessor version of the second version of the runtime library, and to notify said dispatcher of completion upon upgrading said application to said immediate predecessor version of the second version of the runtime library.
- 13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said second later version of the runtime library is a successor version of greater than one generation removed from said first version of the runtime library, said dispatcher notifying said second update service of said second version of said application service provision runtime library of said request directly, and said second update service upgrading said application to said second version of the runtime library.

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

storage medium having stored therein programming instructions designed to implement a first version of an application service provision runtime library, including a first update service equipped with the ability to

receive a request from an application to upgrade update the application to a second later version of the application service provision runtime library, and

to-notify a selected one of

a second update service of the second later version of the application service provision runtime library of said request, and a dispatcher of the apparatus of said request; and

at least one processor coupled to the storage medium to execute the programming instructions.

- 15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said second later version of the runtime library is a selected one of the most current version of the runtime library, and a predecessor version of the most current version of the runtime library.
- 16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said second later version of the runtime library is a selected one of an immediate successor version of said first version of the runtime library, and a successor version of greater than one generation removed from said first version of the runtime library.
- 17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said first update service is further equipped to

receive a notification from a selected one of

a third update service of a predecessor version of said first version of the runtime library and

a dispatcher of the apparatus,

to upgrade update, in response to the notification, said application to said first version of the runtime library, upgrade said application to said first version of the runtime library and

to-notify the selected one of

said third update service and

said dispatcher of completion of said up<u>date</u> grade of said application to said first version of the runtime library.

18. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said first update service is further equipped

to receive a notification from a third update service of a first predecessor version of said first version of the runtime library to update update said application to said first version of the runtime library,

to <u>upgrade update</u>, in response to the notification, said application to said first version of the runtime library, and

to notify a fourth update service of a successor version of said first version of the runtime library to <u>upgrade</u> <u>update</u> said application to said successor version of the runtime library.

19. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

storage medium having stored therein programming instructions designed to implement a first version of an application service provision runtime library, including a first update service to

to-receive a notification, from a selected one of
a second update service of a predecessor version of said
first version of the runtime library to upgrade update an
application to said first version of the runtime library, and

a dispatcher of the apparatus to upgrade update said application to said first version of the runtime library, to upgrade update, in response to the notification, said application to said first version of the runtime library, and to-notify the selected one of

said second update service and
said dispatcher of completion of said upgrade update of
said application to said first version of the runtime library; and

at least one processor coupled to the storage medium to execute the programming instructions.

- 20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein said first version of the runtime library is a selected one of the most current version of the runtime library, and a predecessor version of the most current version of the runtime library.
- 21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein said first version of the runtime library is a selected one of an immediate successor version of said first

<u>predecessor</u> version of the runtime library, and a successor version of greater than one generation remove<u>d</u> from said <u>first-predecessor</u> version of the runtime library.

22. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

storage medium having stored therein programming instructions designed to implement a first version of an application service provision runtime library, including a first update service to

to-receive a notification from a second update service of a first predecessor version of said first version of the runtime library to update said an application to said first version of the runtime library,

to upgrade update, in response to the notification, said application to said first version of the runtime library, and

to-notify a third update service of a successor version of said first version of the runtime library to <u>upgrade</u> <u>update</u> said application to said successor version of the runtime library; and

at least one processor coupled to the storage medium to execute the programming instructions.

- 23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein said first version of the runtime library is a <u>second</u> predecessor version of at least more than one generation earlier than the most current version of the runtime library.
- 24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein said first version of the runtime library is an immediate successor version of said <u>first</u> predecessor version of the runtime library.